UNITED NATIONS

E

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/30/14
29 May 2018
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Thirtieth session
Beirut, 25-28 June 2018

Item 16 of the provisional agenda

Technical cooperation and regional advisory services

Summary

The present report provides an overview of technical cooperation activities carried out by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and funded by the Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation (RPTC), the United Nations Development Account and extrabudgetary resources over the biennium 2016-2017. Activities funded by the regular budget are set out in document E/ESCWA/30/13 entitled "Programme performance in the biennium 2016-2017".

The present report provides background on RPTC, which offers technical capacity-building and advisory services to member States. It also presents the key accomplishments of ESCWA in technical cooperation, and an overview of activities undertaken over the biennium 2016-2017 under its seven subprogrammes. Moreover, the present report provides a breakdown analysis of advisory services and capacity-building activities, and of activities undertaken under the Development Account and extrabudgetary projects financed by donors. It concludes with a brief discussion on the Technical Cooperation Network and the ESCWA vision for future technical cooperation.

18-00237

CONTENTS

		Paragraphs	*Page*
Introduction		1-8	3
Chapter			
I.	**ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE BIENNIUM 2016-2017**	9-44	4
	A. Subprogramme 1. Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development	12-16	4
	B. Subprogramme 2. Social development	17-21	5
	C. Subprogramme 3. Economic development and integration	22-25	7
	D. Subprogramme 4. Technology for development and regional integration	26-29	7
	E. Subprogramme 5. Statistics for evidenced-based policymaking	30-34	8
	F. Subprogramme 6. Advancement of women	35-40	10
	G. Subprogramme 7. Conflict mitigation and development	41-44	11
II.	**ADVISORY SERVICES OVER THE BIENNIUM 2016-2017**	45	12
III.	**CAPACITY-BUILDING**	46	14
IV.	**STUDY TOURS**	47	15
V.	**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT**	48-54	17
VI.	**EXTRABUDGETARY ACTIVITIES**	55-57	19
VII.	**STRENGTHING THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION NETWORK**	58-59	19
VIII.	**RESULTS-BASED TECHNICAL COOPERATION**	60	19
IX.	**CHALLENGES**	61-63	20
X.	**WAY FORWARD**	64-66	20

ANNEXES

I.	Capacity-building workshops under each subprogramme, 2016-2017	21
II.	Capacity-building workshops by country under each subprogramme, 2016-2017	26

Introduction

1. The Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation (RPTC) is an important instrument for implementing the programme of work of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). RPTC was established to provide development support to member States as part of the Commission's larger mission to revitalize economies and strengthen cooperation, and to enhance socioeconomic development in the Arab region.

2. By implementing the findings of cutting-edge global research and analytical work on regional development challenges, RPTC provides stakeholders with services aimed at enhancing their technical, institutional and organizational capacity. Through its various modalities of work, RPTC provides holistic support to policymakers at all stages of the policy cycle, including identifying policy gaps, setting agendas, formulating and implementing policies, and evaluating results and assessing impact.

3. ESCWA technical cooperation projects and services respond to the needs of its member States, and are therefore predominately demand-driven and tailor-made to meet beneficiaries' requirements. In addition to flexibility in responding to emerging and urgent needs facing decision makers in the region, the RPTC strategy has increasingly shifted towards results-oriented work anchored in national frameworks. Through the preparation and adoption of national technical cooperation frameworks, ESCWA seeks to introduce integrated planning into technical support provided to member States to improve effectiveness, increase impact and enhance transparency. As part of this effort, RPTC resources were realigned programmatically with the ESCWA strategic framework, which, over the biennium 2016-2017, focused on three main pillars: inclusive development, regional integration, and good governance and resilience.

4. Technical cooperation at ESCWA is part of a broader international effort aimed at realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through its seven specialized subprogrammes that address various dimensions of development in the Arab region, including social, economic and technological issues, natural resources and the impact of occupation and governance, the work of ESCWA intersects with most of the 17 SDGs. In addition, ESCWA provides specialized support to advance the implementation of the SDGs in the region, including providing capacity support to enhance institutional readiness and foster coordination and coherence, raising awareness about the 2030 Agenda and its implications, and developing partnerships with non-governmental stakeholders. Moreover, ESCWA responds to member States' needs by developing mechanisms and tools for follow-up and review, including support in preparing voluntary national reviews.

5. ESCWA employs the following three categories of technical cooperation services: advisory services to support countries in policy-related issues; capacity-building workshops, familiarization seminars, study tours and fellowships; and pilot field projects in areas where ESCWA has a mandate and expertise, intended to develop into larger donor-funded extrabudgetary projects.

6. Depending on the area and goals of a technical cooperation service, activity implementation is carried out by regular staff, regional advisors and consultants or by teams comprising all three. As part of RPTC, ESCWA teams operate in the field to identify practical solutions and support government-led policies and initiatives. ESCWA exerts every effort to ensure a coherent, interdisciplinary and results-oriented approach in its service implementation.

7. When planning and delivering its technical cooperation services, ESCWA collaborates with key international organizations and institutions in the region, including United Nations country teams, to maintain coherence, ensure the effectiveness of the assistance provided and avoid duplication of efforts. ESCWA has also developed strategic partnerships with international organizations and institutions in the region and globally to mobilize resources, and to ensure greater impact and optimization of financial and non-financial resources.

8. Technical cooperation activities are funded by three interlinked modalities: RPTC, the United Nations Development Account and extra-budgetary resources. As illustrated in the following sections of the present report, ESCWA aims to integrate all three modalities into its normative research work, which is funded through the regular budget.

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE BIENNIUM 2016-2017

9. Over the biennium 2016-2017, ESCWA carried out 182 advisory missions and capacity-building activities under the umbrella of the RPTC budget and 12 Development Account projects. In addition, ESCWA implemented seven technical cooperation projects funded through extrabudgetary resources. All activities were delivered as part of the programmes of work of the subprogrammes (planned) or upon the request of beneficiary countries (demand-driven).

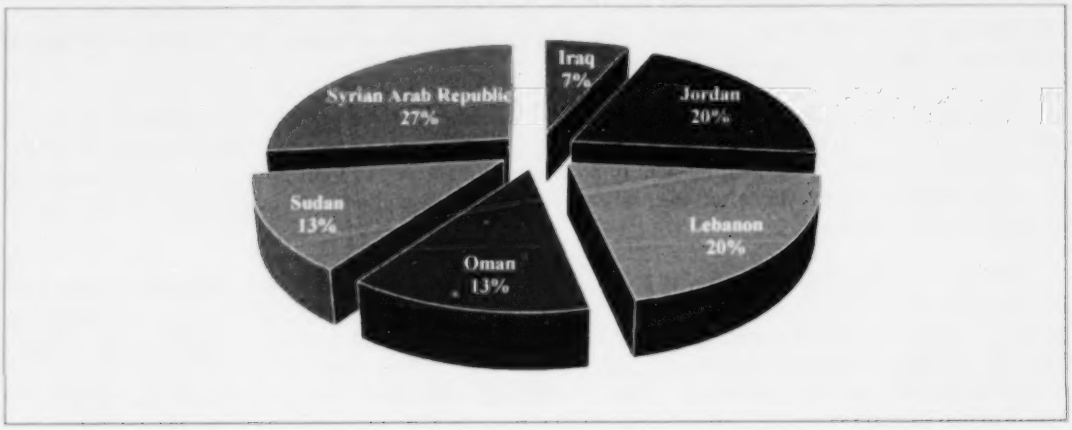
10. ESCWA signed four national technical cooperation frameworks, namely, with Egypt, Mauritania, Morocco and the Sudan, which were integrated into the new programming cycle for technical cooperation to increase coherence in the delivery of services on the ground. It also conducted national technical cooperation workshops in preparation for signing frameworks with Iraq and Tunisia.

11. Mauritania, the State of Palestine, the Sudan and Yemen benefitted the most from ESCWA technical cooperation services. Collectively, they accounted for 47 per cent of ESCWA technical cooperation services from the RPTC budget namely, advisory services and capacity-building workshops. Furthermore, ESCWA implemented 56 regional, subregional and national training sessions under the umbrella of Development Account projects, 12 of which were led by ESCWA and 2 in which ESCWA was a partner. Twenty-seven training manuals were produced for policymakers. Of the 12 Development Account projects led by ESCWA, Mauritania participated in 8, the Sudan in 11, the State of Palestine in 9 and Yemen in 5.

A. SUBPROGRAMME 1. INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

12. The objective of subprogramme 1 is to achieve the integrated management of natural resources, leading to improved food, water and energy security and enhanced resilience to climate change, and to mainstream sustainable goals into regional and national policies. The workplan for the subprogramme includes advisory services, targeted policies in the areas of sustainable development, water management issues, climate change adaptation and the green economy.

Figure 1. Services provided under subprogramme 1



13. Over the biennium 2016-2017, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, the Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic, benefited from advisory services providing policy recommendations, technical assistance and knowledge-sharing through fellowships and capacity development measures in areas such as sustainable development, green economy, and integrated management of land and water resources.

14. ESCWA integrated its research and analysis work into capacity-enhancing and advisory services while implementing the subprogramme. It produced the *Arab Climate Change Assessment Report* in 2017 under the extrabudgetary Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region (RICCAR). The report presented a comprehensive analysis on the impact of climate change on freshwater resources in the Arab region until the end of the century and how this will affect the vulnerability of water resources, agriculture, natural ecosystems, human settlements and people. The report synthesized and built upon multiple regular budget, extrabudgetary, Development Account and RPTC initiatives on climate change that ESCWA has been implementing since 2010, in collaboration with regional and international partners. Over the biennium 2016-2017, the subprogramme published the *Water Development Report* and produced 22 technical reports, parliamentary documentation and background documents for meetings on climate change. The Development Account project on Developing the Capacities of the Arab Countries for Climate Change Adaptation by Applying Integrated Water Resources Management Tools complemented ongoing work under RICCAR by assessing how vulnerable groups and key sectors, including agriculture, economy, environment and health, are affected by climate change. RPTC funding also contributed to building the capacity of policymakers in the region on global climate change negotiations, and to familiarizing government officials with the outcomes of the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference. Thirteen member States prepared their voluntary national reviews on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including targets/plans related to climate change issues and intended nationally determined contributions.

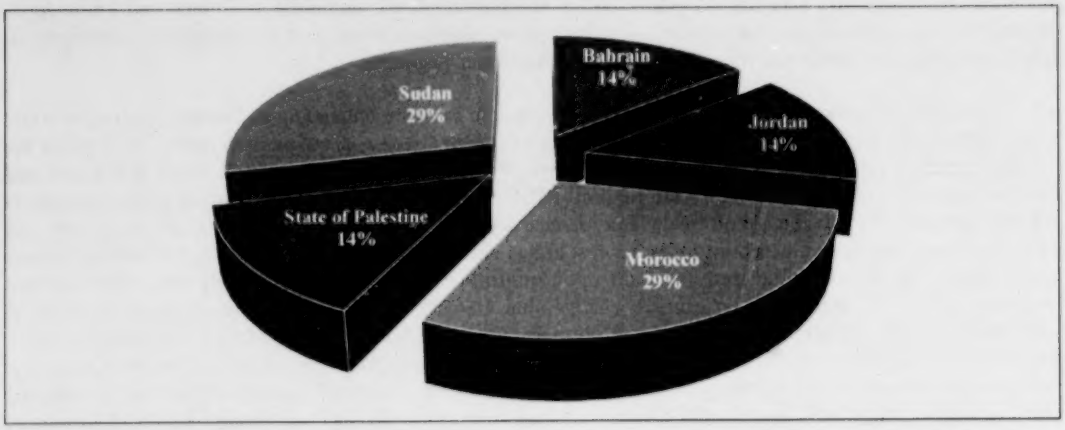
15. Moreover, ESCWA contributed to the formulation of a strategy for establishing a Lebanese national system for technology transfer in oil- and gas-related industries. In the Sudan, ESCWA extended support to the development and drafting of energy efficiency laws. In the Syrian Arab Republic, ESCWA assisted the Ministry of Electricity to prioritize activities and draft a business plan for restructuring the electricity sector. ESCWA also provided advanced training to Oman on geographic information system methods for regional water resource maps.

16. ESCWA work also contributed to enhancing capacities in the environment, water and energy sectors. The Arab Integrated Water Resources Management Network carried out regionally focused activities on water governance, water integrity and hydro-diplomacy. ESCWA provided advisory support to the Arab Union of Electricity to build capacity in energy efficiency and minimize the grid's technical losses. It also assisted member States in implementing the Arab Regional Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production by identifying top performers in the Arab region in priority areas of sustainable consumption and production.

B. Subprogramme 2. Social development

17. The objective of subprogramme 2 is to enhance the capacity of member States to adopt and implement rights-based social policies that promote social justice and lead to equitable, inclusive and participatory socioeconomic development. Advisory services have focused on the strategic realignment of priorities, especially integrated social protection, migration and disability. Under this subprogramme, ESCWA delivered advisory services to Bahrain, Jordan, Morocco, the State of Palestine and the Sudan.

Figure 2. Services provided under subprogramme 2



18. The normative work of ESCWA, which produced analytical work including the *Social Development Report 2: Inequality, Autonomy and Change in the Arab Region*, capitalized on technical support provided under the auspices of a Development Account project entitled "Promoting equality: strengthening the capacity of select developing countries to design and implement equality-oriented public policies and programmes". Under the project, ESCWA implemented four training workshops in the Sudan and Tunisia on measuring inequality and developing inequality-sensitive public policies, and developed tool kits for policymakers. Moreover, ESCWA produced training material on integrating social justice principles in national and local development plans in the Arab region under a second Development Account project entitled "Social justice in Arab countries: challenges and recommended courses of action".

19. The Commission's normative work on disability in the region and its complementary technical support were among factors contributing to important reforms. For instance, Jordan and the Sudan issued new overarching disability laws in 2017, while Morocco embarked on a new government strategy to improve access to electronic resources for persons with disabilities. Similarly, ESCWA work on promoting labour mobility and the protection of migrant workers was among the factors influencing policy changes in Bahrain, Morocco and Qatar.

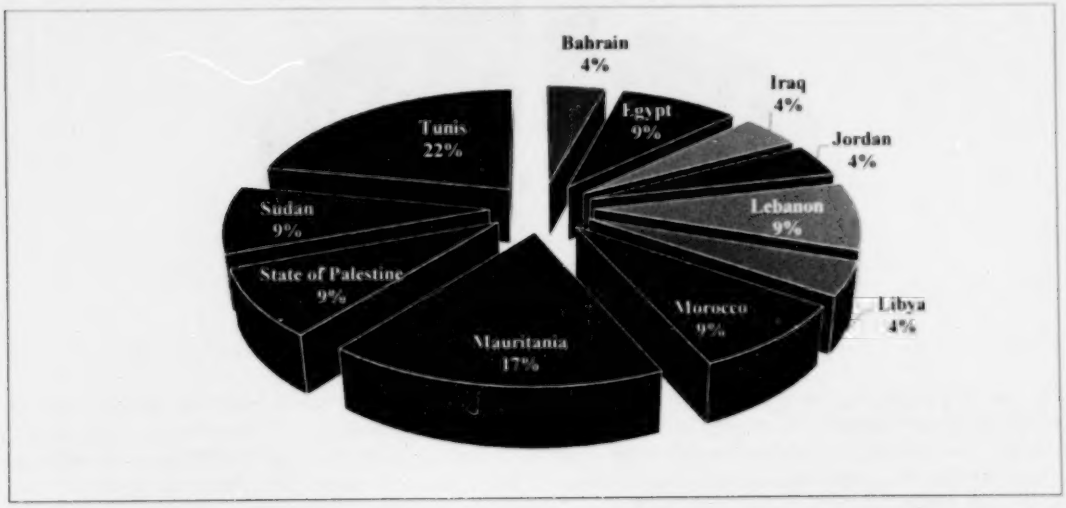
20. In partnership with the League of Arab States, ESCWA participated in the Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration and Refugees (ARCP), including the extraordinary ARCP meeting in preparation for the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants (New York, 19 September 2016), resulting in a common position of Arab States in the form of an outcome document that fed into the 2016 New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants.

21. Over the biennium 2016-2017, representatives from six member States (Bahrain, Jordan, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates) and two non-governmental organizations from Lebanon and Oman expressed their commitment to adopt the ESCWA participatory development approach, and to engage in policy dialogues on mainstreaming social justice and equality issues in development plans and programmes. Jordan adopted the ESCWA toolkit on enhancing the participation of Arab youth in public life and in the decision-making process, and took steps to implement the toolkit at the national level.

C. Subprogramme 3. Economic development and integration

22. The goal of subprogramme 3 is to achieve a decent standard of living for all people in member States through sustained, inclusive and integrated regional economic development. Twenty-three advisory services were delivered to 11 member States over the biennium 2016-2017, covering various fields contributing to the achievement of the SDGs.

Figure 3. Services provided under subprogramme 3



23. The subprogramme implemented integrated normative research and capacity-building activities over the biennium 2016-2017, highlighted in ESCWA work on poverty reduction. For example, the *Arab Multidimensional Poverty Report* was launched at the United Nations General Assembly in September 2017, and the Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers of the League of Arab States issued a resolution adopting the report's recommendations. The study proposes new regional multidimensional poverty indices tailored to the Arab region's household and child poverty challenges, and presented analyses of spatial patterns of deprivation and poverty channels. This work has opened new avenues for technical assistance to Iraq, Jordan and Mauritania, among others, in designing their national poverty measures in line with the proposed multidimensional poverty framework.

24. Moreover, ESCWA compiled a composite index on economic justice in the Arab region to gauge its levels by conceptually defining its elements from a policymaking perspective. The index was adopted in several countries, including Bahrain, Lebanon and Oman.

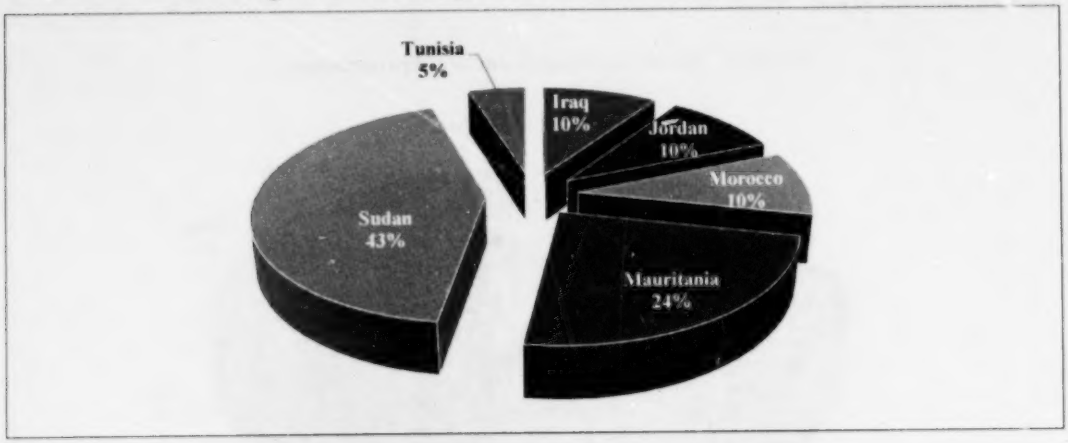
25. With ESCWA support, Saudi Arabia established a trade and transport facilitation committee, and Iraq implemented a single window system as a tool for trade facilitation reform. The Commission also supported Governments in reformulating their tariff policies. For instance, ESCWA assessed the fiscal and economic impact of a new tariff structure adopted by the Government of Tunisia, and the alternative scenarios for a common external tariff in Lebanon. Finally, ESCWA provided training and technical support to member States to facilitate the implementation of the Arab Customs Union.

D. Subprogramme 4. Technology for development and regional integration

26. The objective of subprogramme 4 is to promote inclusive and sustainable development by building an information society and knowledge economy that leverage technology and innovation in accordance with regional development requirements and the outcomes of internationally agreed development objectives.

ESCWA advisory and capacity-building activities focused on the development and enhancement of relevant mechanisms, processes and tools for a knowledge-based economy. Over the biennium 2016-2017, ESCWA delivered 21 advisory services to Iraq, Jordan, Morocco, Mauritania, the Sudan and Tunisia.

Figure 4. Services provided under subprogramme 4



27. In implementing the subprogramme, ESCWA integrated its research and analytical studies with its technical capacity support initiatives. Working on cybersafety and combating cybercrime in the Arab region, ESCWA produced a detailed analysis of current challenges that built upon its longstanding capacity-building efforts in promoting and coordinating cyberlegislation in the Arab region since 2007. The study entitled *Policy Recommendations on Cybersafety and Combating Cybercrime in the Arab Region* proposes a comprehensive guiding policy framework to enhance cybersecurity and build confidence in information and communications technologies and cyberspace. On the basis of this analytical work, the Commission further expanded its capacity-building and advisory services to Governments to assist with the enactment of effective legislation to regulate cyberspace. ESCWA has provided support to Jordan, Morocco and the State of Palestine in that regard.

28. Over the biennium 2016-2017, ESCWA advisory and capacity-building activities focused on assisting member States in leveraging information and communications technologies (ICT) and innovation for socioeconomic development by formulating and evaluating ICT policies, and supporting business process reengineering. Technical support also aimed at enhancing the performance of e-government by formulating improved e-government policies, assessing the maturity of e/m-government services, and developing a national framework for e-service quality. Moreover, ESCWA assisted member States in developing and strengthening their national innovation systems by establishing technology incubators and technology transfer offices. Those activities were implemented in 11 member States, namely Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, the State of Palestine, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates.

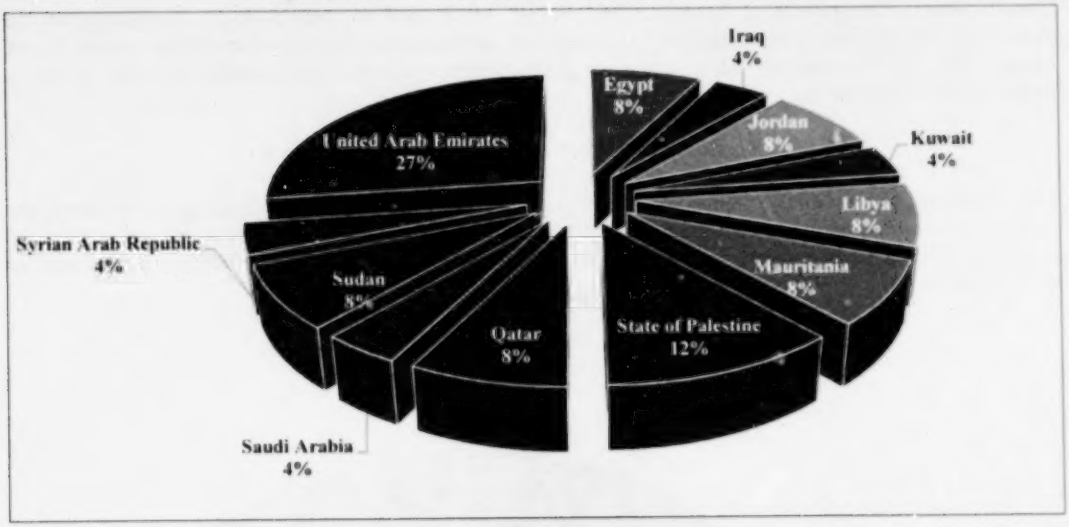
29. ESCWA also assisted member States in implementing policies in the fields of science, technology and innovation and ICT policies. For instance, Jordan is implementing a national road map to develop a national digital strategy and Morocco is preparing a national action plan on digital accessibility. As part of its efforts to enhance knowledge-sharing and South-South exchange, ESCWA established the Arab E-Government Council, which has held several meetings in Lebanon and the United Arab Emirates.

E. Subprogramme 5: Statistics for evidenced-based policymaking

30. Subprogramme 5 seeks to strengthen regional and national statistical systems for the production and dissemination of quality statistics for evidence-based policies aimed at achieving inclusive and sustainable

development, regional integration and improved governance. Over the biennium 2016-2017, 26 advisory services were provided to 12 member States in the areas of national accounts and social, gender and environmental statistics.

Figure 5. Services provided under subprogramme 5



31. Over the biennium 2016-2017, activities on research and capacity-building under this subprogramme were integrated, producing an outcome that included the thirty-fifth edition of the Bulletin on National Accounts Studies of the Arab Region, which presents data from the consolidated national accounts of each ESCWA member State over the period 2011-2015, in addition to available data on and estimates of gross domestic product (GDP) at both current and constant prices, and estimates of real GDP growth for 2016. The main objective of national accounts is to analyse and evaluate an economy's performance, which is a prerequisite for informed, rational policymaking and decision-making, including SDG monitoring. The study built on systematic capacity-building efforts by ESCWA, geared towards implementing standardized statistical methodologies and enhancing member States' ability to provide internationally comparable statistics, including implementing the System of National Accounts (SNA) as the overarching integration framework for economic statistics and meeting the 2008 SNA standards. As part of this effort, ESCWA implemented Development Account projects over the biennium 2016-2017 to develop more exhaustive measurements of the size of the informal sector and Islamic financing, as well as their contributions to GDP. Furthermore, ESCWA held nine capacity-building workshops and advisory services on strengthening national accounts systems, targeting Jordan, Kuwait, Mauritania, the State of Palestine, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. These technical support activities contributed to a region-wide upgrading of statistical systems, whereby all ESCWA member States are currently able to provide at least basic estimates for national accounts.

32. Other technical assistance activities under subprogramme 5 focused on adopting the Global SDG Indicator Framework. ESCWA efforts, including a series of workshops on the institutional environment for SDG-related statistics and sectoral data, enabled member States to launch the production of SDG indicators in line both with the Global Framework and their national strategies for sustainable development. ESCWA has also been instrumental in developing a harmonized approach to the 2020 round of population and housing censuses in the Arab region: 17 member States have requested its assistance in preparing for the upcoming round of censuses, which reflects the effectiveness of the technical support services provided.

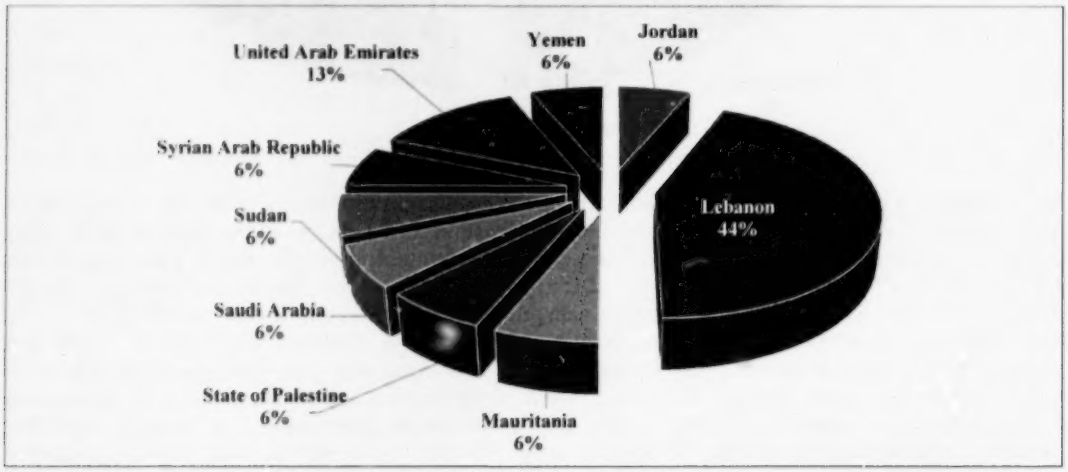
33. Over 1,200 queries have been posted on the ESCWA online statistical portal (http://data.escwa-stat.org/), which is based on nationally sourced statistical data. The portal's data are currently generated by a computerized data management module, which allows clean-up, verification and better structuring of data.

34. ESCWA, in collaboration with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and regional partners, has supported the assessment of statistical systems and the formulation of national strategies in five countries, namely Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, the State of Palestine and the Sudan. Preparatory work was launched in other countries, including those affected by conflict.

F. Subprogramme 6. Advancement of women

35. Subprogramme 6 aims to reduce gender imbalances and contribute to strengthening the respect of the rights of women in member States in line with international conventions and outcomes of conferences, and encourage the exchange of lessons learned in this field to build a society that guarantees justice without discrimination.

Figure 6. Services provided under subprogramme 6



36. ESCWA provided advisory services to Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, the State of Palestine, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen on mainstreaming gender in national development strategies and action plans, so as to promote equality between men and women and to lower the gender gap in access and control of resources and in opportunities.

37. Over the biennium 2016-2017, advisory and capacity-building efforts were closely linked to normative research. For instance, ESCWA produced a major study entitled *Women, Peace and Security: The Role of Institutions in Times of Peace and War in the Arab Region*, which proposes a transformative agenda in Arab countries inspired by Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). The study built on a series of capacity-building workshops and advisory services targeting policymakers on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), which ESCWA carried out under a Development Account project entitled "Institutional and capacity building for Arab parliaments and other stakeholders for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security", and through RPTC funding. Capacity-support entailed holding three expert group meetings and five regional workshops to familiarize 149 participants (including 97 women) from Jordan, Libya, the State of Palestine and the Sudan with the main pillars of Security Council resolution 1325, and to enhance the capacity of national women's machineries in drafting national action plans. In addition, ESCWA held four national workshops for Oman, the State of Palestine, the Syrian Arab Republic and the United Arab

Emirates on implementing Security Council resolution 1325, and produced needs assessments and training manuals on the subject.

38. ESCWA advocacy and capacity-building roles on Security Council resolution 1325 have increased the number of Arab countries with official women, peace and security strategies. This was accomplished in line with official requests from Arab Governments, reflecting member States obligations under Security Council resolution 1325 that call for drafting national action plans to facilitate the implementation of the resolution and for periodical progress reporting to the United Nations. ESCWA assisted the United Arab Emirates in designing and preparing its women, peace and security strategy, and the Syrian Arab Republic in finalizing its women, peace and security strategy.

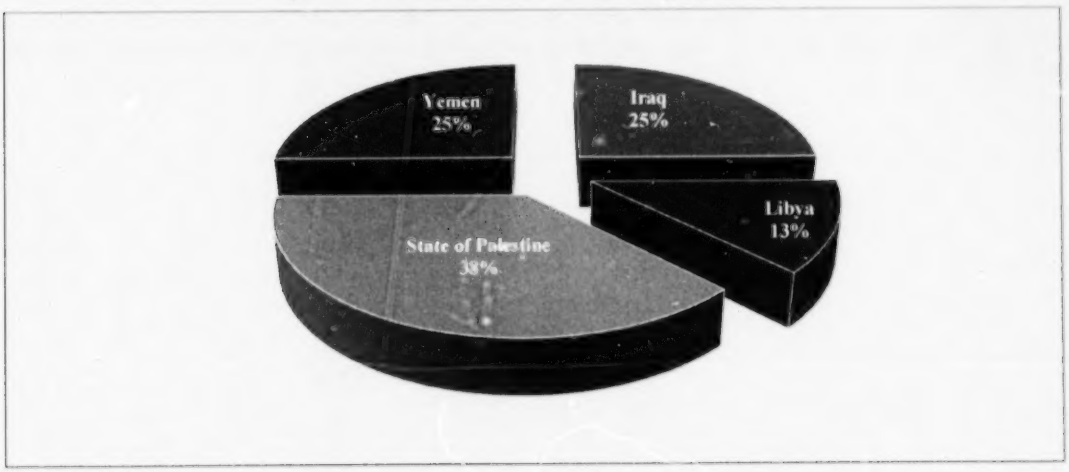
39. ESCWA also contributed to the establishment of national committees advancing the women, peace and security agenda in Lebanon and the Sudan. In Lebanon, ESCWA supported the formation of a drafting committee within the Ministry of State for Women Affairs to formulate the country's women, peace and security strategy and national action plan. In the Sudan, a consultative committee was held under the Ministry of Welfare and Social Security to implement a women, peace and security strategy and national action plan. Moreover, ESCWA is in discussions with Oman to conduct a national capacity-building workshop on linkages between Security Council resolution 1325 and the 2030 Agenda.

40. ESCWA assisted in establishing the following three networks on women's and gender-related issues in the region, to deepen linkages between experts and policymakers and create forums for sharing best practices: the e-Network to enhance mutual learning and disseminate gender-related information between Governments, United Nations staff and civil society organizations; the Arab Working Group on Gender and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, emanating from the seventh session of the ESCWA Committee on Women, aimed at assisting Arab countries in developing national strategies on SDG 6; and a network for ESCWA member States to share knowledge, success stories and lessons learned to enhance the situation of women.

G. SUBPROGRAMME 7. CONFLICT MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT

41. Subprogramme 7 seeks to mitigate the impact of crises, including occupation, and to address development and institutional challenges associated with ongoing transformations in the Arab region. Given the prevailing political climate in the region, the outputs and activities of subprogramme 7 have become increasingly integral to capacity-building efforts in the areas of governance and post-crisis stabilization.

Figure 7. Services provided under subprogramme 7



42. Under this subprogramme, ESCWA delivered capacity-building and advisory services to member States over the biennium 2016-2017, which complemented and built on its normative work. For instance, the forthcoming Arab Governance Report III on the theme "Institutional development in post conflict settings: towards peaceful, inclusive societies and accountable institutions" addresses the question of rebuilding State institutions as part of post-crisis recovery efforts and to consolidate peace. Moreover, the subprogramme produced a detailed study on a unique decentralization experiment in Iraq. The study identified challenges and proposed recommendations for overcoming bottlenecks and deepening the devolution of powers to local authorities. Those outputs provided the foundation for a number of technical assistance initiatives, including capacity-building workshops on integrating internally displaced persons into the national development strategy of Iraq, developing core competencies within the Iraqi civil service, and launching a pilot project in areas liberated from terrorism to promote human development and reconciliation. Moreover, the subprogramme linked its normative research with activities under an extrabudgetary project entitled "Iraq public sector modernization project II" by holding a capacity-building workshop on the theme "Localizing SDGs and decentralizing public services in Iraq" that enabled participants from three governorates across the country to conduct nuanced institutional assessments of local governance in three ministries, and to develop an action plan for future decentralization reform. The workshop also strengthened the capacity of the Iraqi Higher Commission for Coordinating among Provinces in assessing needs and identifying gaps in the administrative and fiscal decentralization steps of public services. It also enabled government officials to develop a systemic agenda for future reforms to be implemented in collaboration with donor agencies.

43. In the State of Palestine, focus was placed on integrating national development plans with the SDGs, which resulted in three long-term cooperation tracks on SDG 17, human development and institutional development for better essential services. In Yemen, bilateral and focus group discussions fed into the development of an ESCWA long-term engagement strategy to support the country's institutions and enhance their recovery roles in the post-conflict phase. In Lebanon, technical support focused on developing a national governance strategy for civil society organizations and public sector reform, which resulted in the formulation of a national action plan.

44. The subprogramme also succeeded in creating a subregional network for senior Arab civil servants from six member States, aimed at developing core competencies within the public sector and facilitating knowledge-sharing.

II. ADVISORY SERVICES OVER THE BIENNIUM 2016-2017

45. Over the biennium 2016-2017, ESCWA provided 116 advisory services to member States, and implemented 27 regional and subregional training workshops. Table 1 shows that the majority of advisory services rendered were carried out under subprogrammes 3 and 5 on economic development and integration and statistics.

TABLE 1. NUMBER OF ADVISORY SERVICES PROVIDED TO ESCWA MEMBER STATES OVER THE BIENNIUM 2016-2017 (BY SUBPROGRAMME)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Bahrain		1	1					2
Egypt			2		2			4
Iraq	1		1	2	1		2	7
Jordan	3	1	1	2	2	1		10
Kuwait					1			1
Lebanon	3		2			7		12
Libya			1		2		1	4
Mauritania			4	5	2	1		12
Morocco		2	2	2				6
Oman	2							2
State of Palestine		1	2		3	1	3	10
Qatar					2			2
Saudi Arabia					1	1		2
Sudan	2	2	2	9	2	1		18
Syrian Arab Republic	4				1	1		6
Tunisia			5	1				6
United Arab Emirates					7	2		9
Yemen						1	2	3
Total	15	7	23	21	26	16	8	116

Figure 8. Advisory services by subprogramme

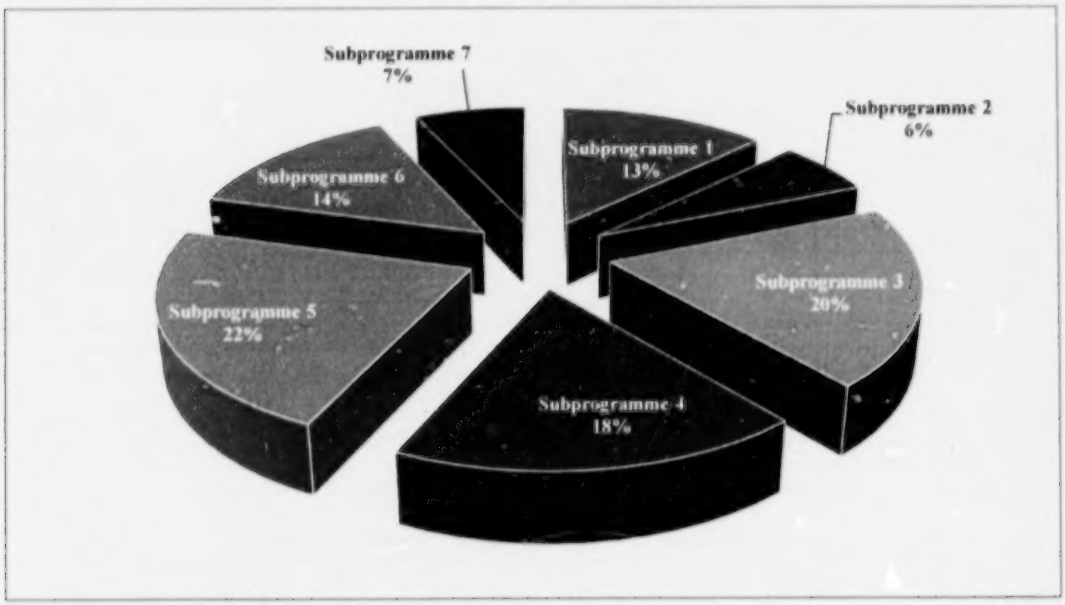
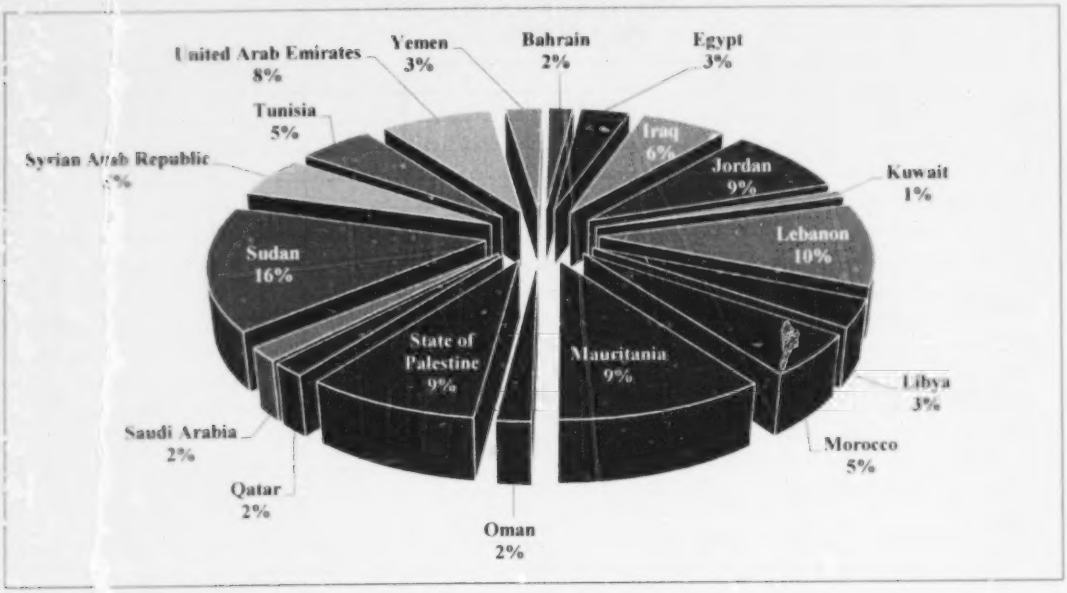


Figure 9. Advisory services by country



III. CAPACITY-BUILDING

46. Table 2 shows the capacity-building activities provided by ESCWA to member States over the biennium 2016-2017.

TABLE 2. NUMBER OF CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES PROVIDED TO ESCWA MEMBER STATES OVER THE PERIOD 2016-2017 (BY SUBPROGRAMME)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Bahrain	1		1					2
Egypt	2		2	3	1	1		9
Iraq					1		2	3
Jordan	2	1	2		3			8
Kuwait								0
Lebanon	2	3	2			5		12
Libya					1			1
Mauritania				3		1		4
Morocco	1		1	2	1			5
Oman	1				2			3
State of Palestine		1	2		1	1	1	6
Qatar								0
Saudi Arabia								0
Sudan		1		8	1			10
Syrian Arab Republic	4					1		5
Tunisia				1				1
United Arab Emirates					3	1		4
Yemen						1	1	2
Total	13	6	10	17	14	11	4	75

Figure 10. Capacity-building activities by type

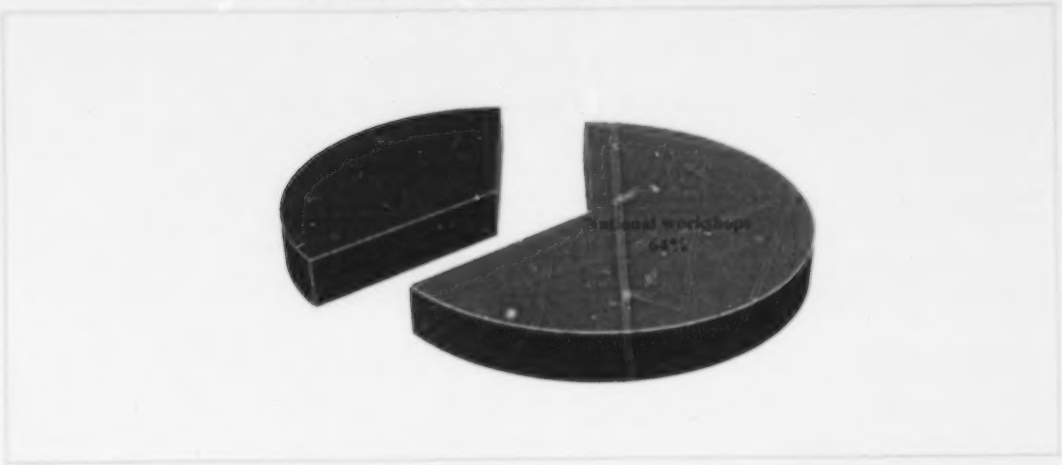
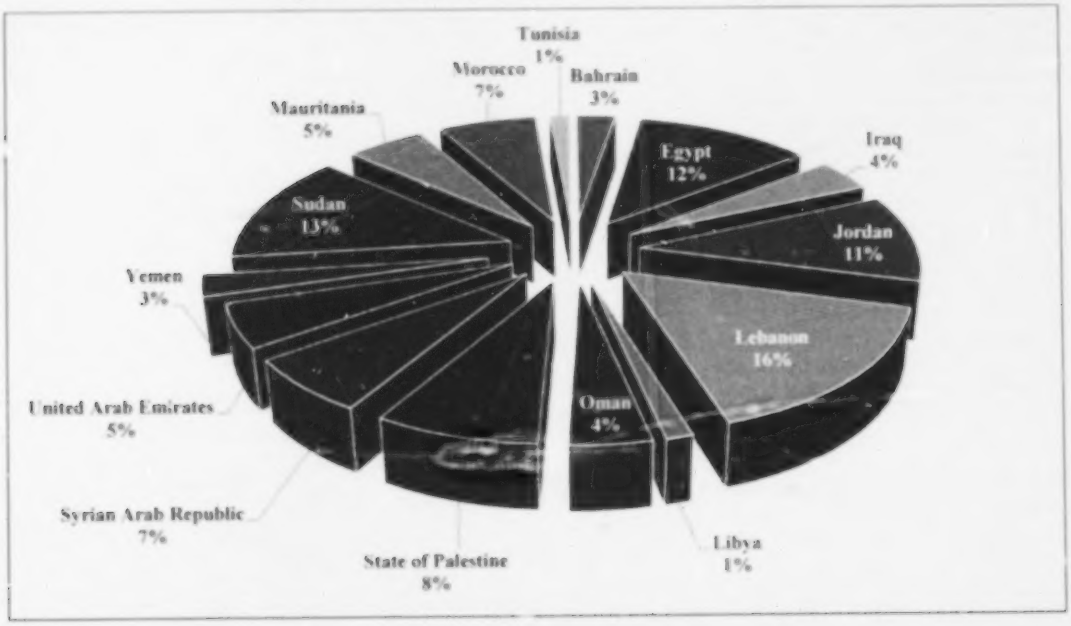


Figure 11. Capacity-building activities by country



IV. STUDY TOURS

47. Over the biennium 2016-2017, ESCWA organized 18 study tours for government officials. Study tours are complementary to ongoing ESCWA engagements. They serve to promote South-South cooperation and to facilitate the transfer of good practices. Study tour subjects included: social water studies in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region and the Jordan River basin; statistical issues related to national accounts and short-term indicators; and the sixth Annual Conference by the MENA Governance Institutes Forum for Training (GIFT-MENA) on the theme "Government, governance and the State: the path to capacity".

TABLE 3. STUDY TOURS PROVIDED TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM ESCWA MEMBER STATES

Activity	Member State	No. of participants
International Water Conference 2016 on the theme "Water Resources in Arid Areas: The Way Forward" (Muscat, 13-16 March 2016)	Iraq	1
	Morocco	1
	State of Palestine	1
	Tunisia	1
International Specialized Course Programme on the theme "Smart and Integration of Renewable Energy Projects" (Spain, Granada, 25-30 April 2016)	State of Palestine	1
	Sudan	1
	Yemen	1
Moroccan and Palestinian officials visit ESCWA to learn about the work of the different divisions and discuss their national priorities in terms of technical cooperation (31 March-1 April 2016 and 12-13 May 2016, respectively)	Morocco	2
	State of Palestine	3
Consultative meeting on Yemen's reconstruction and rehabilitation (Beirut, 22-23 February 2016)	Yemen	3
Towards an integrated approach to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020: Perspectives from African and Arab LDCs (28 May 2016, Antalya)	Yemen	2
	Mauritania	1
	Sudan	1
GIFT-MENA Network Annual Conference on Governance, Fragility and Sustainable Development (Paris, 12-14 October 2016)	State of Palestine	2
Fourth meeting of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (Geneva, 17-18 November 2016)	State of Palestine	1
Representatives from the Environment Quality Authority participated in the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Marrakesh, Morocco, 7-18 November 2016)	State of Palestine	2
Discuss with ESCWA the Palestinian project document on implementing a census of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (Beirut, February 2017)	State of Palestine	7
Representatives of the Syrian National Authority for Family and Population Affairs visited ESCWA to learn about the Centre for Women's work and discuss national priorities in terms of technical cooperation; the content of capacity-development workshops and their duration, participation and expected outputs; and the role of national women's machineries in informing national dialogue towards mainstreaming gender within national planning frameworks (Beirut, 27 March 2017)	Syrian Arab Republic	2
Trilateral meeting with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD/ESCWA/State of Palestine to discuss costing the impact of the Israeli occupation (Beirut, 13 March 2017)	State of Palestine	2
Third Working Group Meeting on Sustainable Development Indicators (Amman, 13-15 March 2017)	Iraq	6
	Lebanon	
	State of Palestine	
	Sudan	
	Syrian Arab Republic	
	Yemen	
Sixty-first World Statistics Conference (Marrakech, 16-21 July 2017)	State of Palestine	1
Workshop on national mechanisms to implement the SDGs (Amman, 8-10 August 2017)	Egypt	1
	State of Palestine	1
Second consultative meeting on the cost of Israeli occupation for the Palestinian people (Geneva, 2-4 October 2017)	State of Palestine	1
Ninth meeting of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Ramallah, 7-9 November 2017)	Iraq	1
	Morocco	1
	Total	48

V. UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT

48. The Development Account was introduced into the United Nations programme budget pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/15. It finances multi-year projects intended to enhance the capacities of developing countries in the priority areas of the United Nations development agenda. These projects are in line with the expected accomplishments of the ESCWA subprogrammes. They strengthen ESCWA normative and analytical work and encourage interdivisional and interregional cooperation.

49. For the eighth tranche (T8), ESCWA was designated as the lead agency for five projects, three of which were still active in 2016 and focused on the following themes: "Institutional and capacity-building for Arab parliaments and other stakeholders for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security"; "Developing the capacities of the Arab countries for climate change adaptation by applying integrated water resources management tools in key sectors"; and "Building capacities in developing appropriate green technologies for improving the livelihood of rural communities in the ESCWA region". All eighth tranche projects closed in 2017.

50. For the ninth tranche (T9), ESCWA led the implementation of the following five projects: "Strengthening the statistical capacity of ESCWA member States in producing and disseminating short-term economic indicators for sustainable growth"; "Strengthening national capacities for integrated, sustainable and inclusive population and development policies in the Arab region"; "Promoting renewable energy investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development"; "Developing the capacity of ESCWA member States to address the water and energy nexus for achieving sustainable development goals"; and "Establishing national technology development and transfer systems in select ESCWA member States". The projects were concluded on time, by 31 December 2017, except for one, "Strengthening national capacities for integrated, sustainable and inclusive population and development policies in the Arab region", which has been extended until September 2018 on programmatic grounds, owing to significant achievements and in order to amplify its impact by taking into consideration country demand for additional support. Moreover, ESCWA was an implementing partner in two other projects of the ninth tranche: the first, led by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, focused on "Promoting equality: Strengthening the capacity of select developing countries to design and implement equality-oriented public policies and programmes"; and the second, led by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, aimed at "Strengthening the capacity of Governments in the ESCAP, ECA and ESCWA regions to respond to the needs of youth in formulating inclusive and sustainable development policies".

51. For the tenth tranche (T10), ESCWA was designated as the lead agency for the following four projects: "Fostering institutional development for participatory approaches towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in Western Asia"; "Promoting social justice in selected countries in the Arab region"; "Facilitating the implementation of the Arab Customs Union"; and "Implementation and follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Enhancing the capacities of Arab countries". ESCWA is also taking part in the implementation of the T10 "Programme for Statistics and Data" led by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

52. Table 4 summarizes the initial funding information on ESCWA-led Development Account projects that were active in the biennium 2016-2017.

TABLE 4. FUNDING FOR ESCWA-LED PROJECTS UNDER THE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT, 2016-2017

Tranche	Project title	Funding year	Initial funding ($)
8	Institutional and capacity-building for Arab parliaments and other stakeholders for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security	2013	509,945
8	Developing the capacities of the Arab countries for climate change adaptation by applying integrated water resource management tools in key sectors	2013	517,000
8+	Building capacities in developing appropriate green technologies for improving the livelihood of rural communities in the ESCWA region	2014	590,936
9	Strengthening the statistical capacity of ESCWA member States in producing and disseminating short-term economic indicators for sustainable growth	2014	518,000
9	Strengthening national capacities for integrated, sustainable and inclusive population and development policies in the Arab region	2014	714,000
9	Promoting renewable energy investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development	2014	632,000
9	Developing the capacity of ESCWA member States to address the water and energy nexus for achieving sustainable development goals	2014	525,000
9+	Establishing national technology development and transfer systems in select ESCWA member States	2015	497,000
10	Fostering institutional development for participatory approaches towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in Western Asia	2016	666,000
10	Promoting social justice in selected countries in the Arab region	2016	301,000
10	Facilitating the implementation of the Arab Customs Union	2016	597,000
10+	Implementation and follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Enhancing the capacities of Arab countries	2016	598,608
	Total		6,666,489

53. Throughout the biennium 2016-2017, and under the Development Account projects listed above in which ESCWA was the lead agency and an implementing partner in two additional projects, the Commission completed 116 activities, including advisory missions, capacity-building workshops and expert group meetings, in addition to special events and other activities (table 5).

54. ESCWA carried out 13 advisory missions to project countries in the different areas covered by Development Account projects. ESCWA also built the capacity of large numbers of stakeholders through 55 training workshops. Moreover, ESCWA brought together experts, officials and decision makers from the region to share knowledge and experiences at 19 expert group meetings on different themes tackled by the Development Account projects. Two study tours were also organized under the project on "Strengthening the statistical capacity of ESCWA member States in producing and disseminating short-term economic indicators for sustainable growth", during which 19 participants gained knowledge from organizational experiences in the field of short-term economic indicators, rapid estimates and economic tendency surveys. Producing training material is also an important part of the projects: over the biennium 2016-2017, ESCWA prepared 27 different

training modules, including manuals, guidebooks, policy and operational toolkits, sectoral studies and online platforms for knowledge-sharing.

TABLE 5. ESCWA ACTIVITIES UNDER DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT PROJECTS, 2016-2017

	Number of Development Account events		
	2016	2017	Total
Advisory missions	8	5	13
Training workshops	22	34	56
Expert group meetings	6	13	19
Special events	1	1	2
Training material related activities			27
Total			117

VI. EXTRABUDGETARY ACTIVITIES

55. Over the biennium 2016-2017, ESCWA received $10.1 million in extrabudgetary resources to implement national and regional activities, compared with $8.9 million in the previous biennium. Voluntary contributions were received from other United Nations organizations, international and regional funding organizations, and civil society institutions. Major contributors during the biennium 2016-2017 included the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the Government of Germany, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Jordanian Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, the Jordanian Higher Council for Science and Technology, and the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Furthermore, the Government of Qatar provided funding to ESCWA to hold the twenty-ninth ministerial session in Doha.

56. Increased frequency and level of voluntary contributions by member States will enable ESCWA to meet growing needs in the region, by expanding both the scope and nature of its advisory and capacity-building services and field projects.

57. Examples of extrabudgetary activities carried out by ESCWA include projects on Libya, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, which provide platforms for articulating nationally owned visions for post-conflict societies.

VII. STRENGTHING THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION NETWORK

58. The Technical Cooperation Network (TCN) aims to strengthen coordination, networking and the exchange of best practices among national focal points. TCN meetings facilitate the regular sharing of innovative technical support initiatives from across the region and the identification of expertise, thereby creating opportunities to establish effective partnerships between stakeholders in member States. The Network also enables ESCWA to better identify the priorities of its member States, thus enhancing the long-term value added from its technical cooperation services.

59. Based on recommendations made at the fifth TCN meeting, held in Doha on 12 December 2016, TCN meetings should take place annually and back-to-back with the ESCWA Executive Committee. The last TCN meeting was held in Beirut on 12 December 2017. The next meeting will take place in the last quarter of 2018.

VIII. RESULTS-BASED TECHNICAL COOPERATION

60. The aim of ESCWA technical support is to induce changes in institutional environments and policy frameworks. This is part of the Commission's larger efforts to build member States' capacity to effectively mobilize resources and instigate structural transformations towards inclusive sustainable development. As such, ESCWA technical support, while responding to emerging demands in national contexts, is guided by principles of result-based programming and visions of desired long-term transformations resulting from its interventions. Over the biennium 2016-2017, ESCWA signed four national technical cooperation

frameworks with Egypt, Mauritania, Morocco and the Sudan. It also prepared draft national technical cooperation frameworks with Iraq and Tunisia. To identify priority areas for technical support in member States, ESCWA holds multisectoral national workshops with stakeholders from all concerned ministries. Through participatory working group discussions, government stakeholders identify needs using an integrated approach. In this process, particular attention is paid to mainstreaming gender, or how potential technical assistance activities affect the respective roles of men and women. Moreover, in identifying technical assistance needs and desired activities, stakeholders are urged to articulate the desired outcomes and long-term visions for change as a result of the requested capacity support initiatives.

IX. CHALLENGES

61. Over the biennium 2016-2017, ESCWA succeeded in increasing its RPTC funds by $468,000, targeted towards hiring a regional advisor on the 2030 Agenda and expanding operational activities. The increase in funding was needed to service rising demand for ESCWA services. However, the Commission remains constrained in its ability to deliver services, both by limited staff time and areas of technical expertise. Against this backdrop, ESCWA plans to rely more on promoting South-South cooperation, developing peer networks, establishing forums for knowledge-sharing, and building closer cooperation with United Nations country teams to ensure increased coverage and sustainability of results.

62. In the light of the Commission's reorientation towards result-based management, advisory services now aim to build on normative research and training efforts to facilitate policy shifts, verify results, and identify gaps and needs on the ground. In other words, effective implementation requires ensuring that beyond the provision of high quality capacity support services, decision makers are enabled to translate their newly acquired knowledge and skills into improved policies and initiatives. However, continued instability in the region often creates narrow windows for initiating reform, and changes at the policy level require time before becoming fully institutionalized.

63. RPTC also faces the challenge of balancing the provision of region-wide services with responding to member States' different requests based on nationally defined development agendas and capacity-building requirements. This reflects the growing disparity in institutional capacity support needs in some policy areas across the region. While in some cases, synergies and shared capacity needs facilitated regional and subregional interventions, in other cases, capacity-building workshops and advisory services needed to be tailored to the specific needs of individual countries.

X. WAY FORWARD

64. Going forward, there is a need for RPTC to further systematize technical cooperation national workshops to develop technical cooperation country plans that focus on assessed needs and anticipated priorities. It is also necessary to enhance multidisciplinary missions to better serve member States in addressing challenges that are often interdependent and multidimensional.

65. ESCWA should forge strategic alliances with regional training foundations, think tanks and academic institutions to foster effective mechanisms for sustainable skill development, including a fellowship programme for policymakers in the region. Such alliances will allow ESCWA to capitalize on existing expertise to ensure faster responses to member States' technical cooperation requests.

66. ESCWA should also improve partnerships with United Nations organizations and other stakeholders, leading to more integrated programmes. ESCWA aims to modify and improve its technical cooperation services by utilizing innovative procedures and methods in its implementation of technical cooperation activities. Over the biennium 2018-2019, ESCWA will develop country plans, in coordination with United Nations country teams, national focal points and concerned ministries. This strategy will allow ESCWA to deliver a more structured, efficient and effective response to member States' requests while maximizing its resources.

Annex I*

CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOPS UNDER EACH SUBPROGRAMME, 2016-2017

Workshop	Number of participants	Female participants	Venue	Date
Subprogramme 1: Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development				
Advanced training workshop on the use of GIS methods for the development of regional water resources maps for Oman	25	5	Oman	10-21 January 2016
Sixth regional training workshop on capacity development for climate change negotiations for the Arab countries	30	10	Egypt	3-6 April 2016
National round table meeting to discuss the training programme to support the national capacity-building in the electricity utilities	10	2	Lebanon/ Syrian Arab Republic	8-9 June 2016
Subregional workshop on energy efficiency in generation, transmission and distribution of electricity systems	30	10	Jordan	4-5 September 2016
Seventh regional workshop on capacity development for climate change negotiations for the Arab countries	30	10	Morocco	25-29 September 2016
Expert training workshop on electricity sector reform and restructuring in the Syrian Arab Republic	20	5	Syrian Arab Republic	25-26 January 2017
Regional workshop on the role of regulatory water agencies in efficient water management	20	10	Bahrain	27-30 March 2017
Eight regional workshop on capacity development for climate change negotiations for the Arab countries	50	15	Lebanon	10-13 April 2017
Training workshop on transforming electric public establishments in the Syrian Arab Republic into commercial companies	25	10	Syrian Arab Republic	25-26 April 2017
National training workshop on improving governance of electric public establishments in the Syrian Arab Republic	25	5	Syrian Arab Republic	23-24 May 2017
Subregional workshop on power purchase agreements for large-scale renewable energy: details, pitfalls, and crucial articles	25	5	Jordan	8-9 October 2017
Ninth regional workshop on capacity development for climate change negotiations for the Arab countries	30	10	Egypt	9-12 October 2017
National consultative meeting of experts on national systems for technology transfer with case studies in gas-related industries	10	2	Lebanon	4 December 2017
Subprogramme 2: Social development				
Regional workshop on the 2016 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development	40	7	Jordan	29-30 May 2016

* Issued as submitted.

Workshop	Number of participants	Female participants	Venue	Date
Regional workshop on the Intersessional Group of Experts on Disability in the Arab region	45	10	Lebanon	20-21 September 2016
National workshop on supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Palestine	25	3	Jordan/ State of Palestine	26-28 November 2016
Implementing the 2030 Agenda in the Sudan: Awareness-raising and advocacy workshop	20	5	Sudan	15-19 January 2017
Regional workshop on changes in public expenditure on social protection in Arab countries	25	10	Lebanon	26-27 July 2017
Subregional training workshop on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the labour market	35	10	Lebanon	4-6 December 2017
Subprogramme 3: Economic development and integration				
Regional meeting for the Arab Group in the WTO to address the Nairobi outcomes and implementation issues	17	6	Jordan	22-24 February 2016
National workshop on tax treaties	25	10	Bahrain	27-31 March 2016
National ESCWA intermediate workshop on roads landscape design to enhance road safety in Lebanon	29	6	Lebanon	13-14 April 2016
Regional training workshop on multidimensional poverty measurement in the Arab region	30	13	Jordan	31 October – 3 November 2016
National workshop on rules of origin in international trade: concepts, techniques and application for the Arab region	30	10	Morocco	22-24 December 2016
Regional training workshop on GIS application for the Integrated Transport System in the Arab States	50	15	Egypt	22 January 2017
National workshop on international contemporary issues in international taxation	25	5	Egypt	20-23 February 2017
National workshop on supporting competition and completion policy in the State of Palestine	20	3	State of Palestine	3-4 May 2017
National workshop on strategic planning for sustainable transport sector in Palestine	20	3	State of Palestine	24-25 April 2017
National workshop on negotiations skills for a common external tariff for Lebanon	25	4	Lebanon	18-19 October 2017
Subprogramme 4: Technology for development and regional integration				
Regional workshop on the survey for the impact assessment and improvement of the Arab Internet Governance Forum, and the Second Meeting of the AIGF2020 Initiative's Technical Cooperation Working Group	30	10	Egypt	11-13 October 2016

Workshop	Number of participants	Female participants	Venue	Date
National workshop on the Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders in the Arab region	30	10	Sudan	20-22 November 2016
Workshop on the innovation and technology transfer landscape in the Sudan	30	10	Sudan	23 November 2016
Second national workshop on the establishment of a national technology transfer office	30	10	Mauritania	19-20 December 2016
Regional workshop on the outputs of the AIGF2020 Initiative's Technical Cooperation Working Group	30	10	Egypt	20-22 December 2016
National training workshop on the integration of technology in higher education for sustainable development	30	10	Morocco	21-22 December 2016
Two national training workshops on the Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders in the Arab region	20	5	Sudan	26-28 March 2017
National workshop on developing technology incubators in the Sudan	20	5	Sudan	29 March 2017
National workshop on developing a framework for e-service quality in the Sudan	20	5	Sudan	30 March 2017
Two national workshops on (1) e-government strategies and on (2) e-government measurable indicators	20	5	Mauritania	9-14 April 2017
Subregional workshop on fostering innovation in the public sectors of Arab countries	25	10	Egypt	30-31 October 2017
National workshop on technology for persons with disability	25	5	Morocco	26-30 October 2017
National workshop on NTTO in the Sudan (legal framework and suggested structure)	25	5	Sudan	16 December 2017
National workshop on an ICT observatory in the Sudan	20	5	Sudan	18-19 Dec. 2017
Subprogramme 5: Statistics for evidence-based policymaking				
Regional training workshop on supply and use in the Arab region	25	10	Jordan	3-8 April 2016
National workshop on input and output tables	20	10	State of Palestine	17-20 April 2017
National consultative workshop on the use of new technology in the population and housing census	25	10	Sudan	1-2 June 2016
Regional workshop on statistical business registers	30	12	Jordan	25-29 September 2016

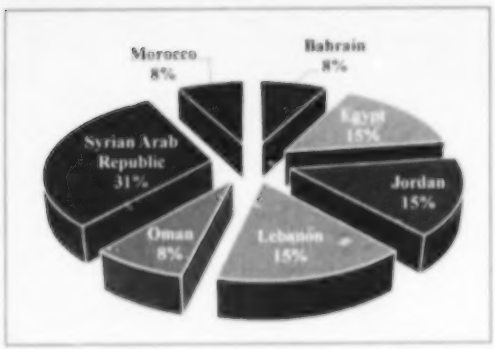
Workshop	Number of participants	Female participants	Venue	Date
Regional workshop on the principles and recommendations for a vital statistics system, revision 3, for Arabic-speaking countries	30	10	Oman	14-17 November 2016
Regional meeting on disability measurement and statistics in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme	30	14	Oman	12-14 December 2016
Second regional workshop on the 2020 round of population and housing censuses	20	5	Egypt	22-23 January 2017
National training workshop on methods and sources used for compiling regional GDP estimates for the Emirates level	25	3	United Arab Emirates	22-26 January 2017
Job training workshop for staff of the RAK Centre of Statistics on "Demographic and social indicators"	20	3	United Arab Emirates	22 February- 2 March 2017
Third regional working group meeting on sustainable development indicators	20	5	Jordan	13-15 March 2017
Regional workshop on improving disability statistics in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Arab countries	26	18	Morocco	17-20 April 2017
National training on compiling supply and use for Iraq	15	3	Iraq	14-17 August 2017
National workshop on the population and housing censu. : How federal systems design and implement population census	15	9	United Arab Emirates	16-17 October 2017
National workshop on indicators of industrial producers' prices	4	4	Libya	18-20 December 2017
Subprogramme 6: Advancement of women				
National workshop on Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security	30	10	Abu Dhabi	30 May - 2 June 2016
Regional capacity-building workshop on the adoption of the 2030 development agenda on gender and the SDGs	30	15	Lebanon	17-18 August 2016
National training workshop on gender and SDGs and the strategies for women empowerment and political participation	25	5	Mauritania	20-23 March 2017
National workshop on building capacities of the Lebanese Council for Women on political participation and political empowerment	20	5	Lebanon	28 February - 3 March 2017
Training workshop responding to SDG5 in the Syrian Arabic Republic	20	5	Syrian Arab Republic	27-28 March 2017
Capacity-building workshop on enhancing Yemeni women's capacity and promoting political participation and the women, peace and security agenda	20	5	Yemen	4-6 April 2017

Workshop	Number of participants	Female participants	Venue	Date
Third regional workshop for members of the subcommittee on the adoption of the 2030 Development Agenda on gender and the SDGs	20	10	Lebanon	8-10 May 2017
Regional consultation meeting on estimating the cost of violence against women	25	10	Alexandria, Egypt	24-25 October 2017
National training workshop on international mechanisms to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women: between the text and judicial application, targeting the Lebanese judiciary	25	10	Lebanon	13 October 2017
Technical meeting to discuss the costing of violence in the State of Palestine	11	5	State of Palestine	20-21 November 2017
National workshop on the role of the media and academia in implementing the women, peace and security agenda in Lebanon	35	10	Lebanon	28-29 November 2017
Subprogramme 7: Conflict mitigation and development				
Introductory workshop on Yemen's recovery and reconciliation	30	10	Egypt	24-25 November 2016
Preliminary workshop on internally displaced persons and refugees in Iraq and the requirements of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda	30	6	Iraq	21-23 February 2017
National workshop on the Sustainable Development Goals for staff of the State of Palestine: Partnerships for empowering a future State of Palestine: Sustainable Development Goal 17 and South-South and triangular cooperation	25	12	State of Palestine	27-28 April 2017
National workshop on localizing the SDGs and decentralized public services in Iraq	35	10	Iraq	6-9 November 2017

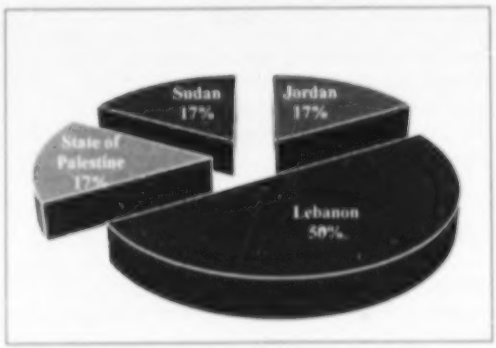
Annex II

CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOPS BY COUNTRY UNDER EACH SUBPROGRAMME, 2016-2017

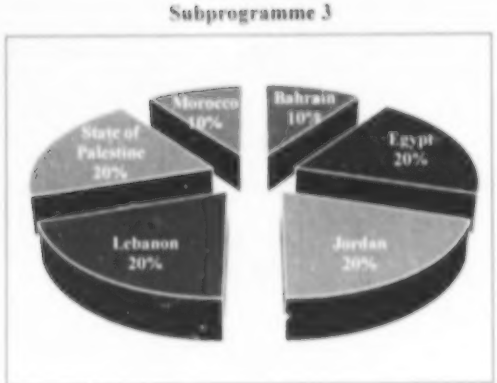
Subprogramme 1



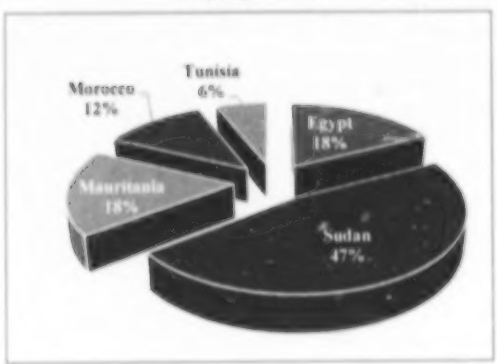
Subprogramme 2



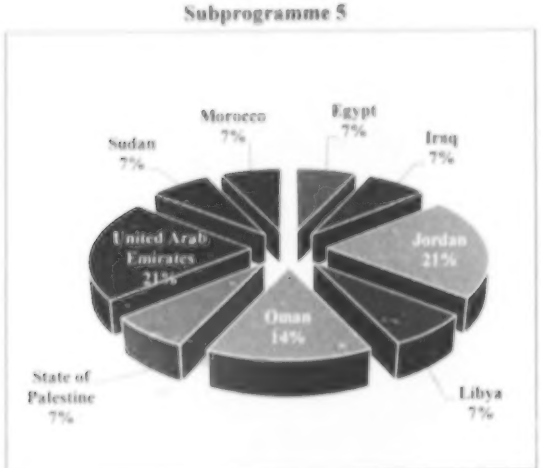
Subprogramme 3



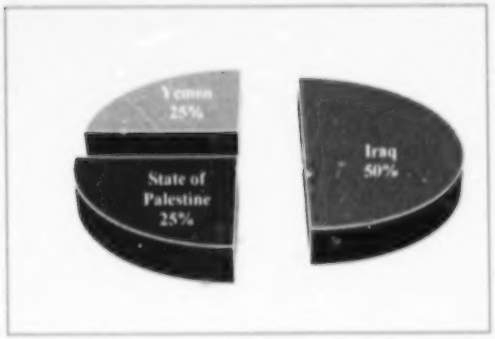
Subprogramme 4



Subprogramme 5



Subprogramme 6



Subprogramme 7